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A NEW FAMILY IN THE DIPLOPOD ORDER
CHORDEUMIDA

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Among a number of diplopods collected by Stanley and Dorothea Mulaik, presumably in Texas near Kerrville are a female and two males representing a new genus and a distinctly new family in the suborder Chordeumidea of the order Chordeumida. Pertinent diagnoses are herein given.

Family *Ergethidae* new

Body composed of 20 segments. Mentum of the gnathochilarium entire, no promentum being set off; prebasilar sclerite complete, sclerotized entirely across with but very narrow at middle. Ocelli 17 on each side. Second legs of seventh segment in the male not at all modified.

Containing the new genus *Ergethus*.

Readily distinguished from other families in having the body composed of only 20 segments as well as in the characters of the gnathochilarium as noted above.

Genus *Ergethus* new

With the characters of the family as noted above. Antennae long; first article very short, the second and third long and subequal; the fourth, fifth and sixth somewhat shorter, subequal. Telopodite of gonopods of male curved, distally broad and rather complicated. Second legs of the seventh segment of normal form and size. Surface of tergites smooth.

Generotype—*Ergethus perditus* new species.

Ergethus perditus new species

Body attenuated anteriorly and more abruptly posteriorly. Surface of segments smooth, with the segmental sulci fine and distinct. Last tergite with narrowed cauda projecting well beyond the caudal valves. Legs and antennae long.

Body in general brown, paler beneath and in more or less distinct annuli. Legs yellow.

Head depressed behind base of antenna on each side, the ocellus in the depression; retose, the setae longer and more dense in frontal and clypeal region; a fine median scelus across vertex and down to a point between antennae above which interrupted.

Gnathochilarium with mentum subtriangular in outline, the acute apex extending between the *lamellae linguales*.

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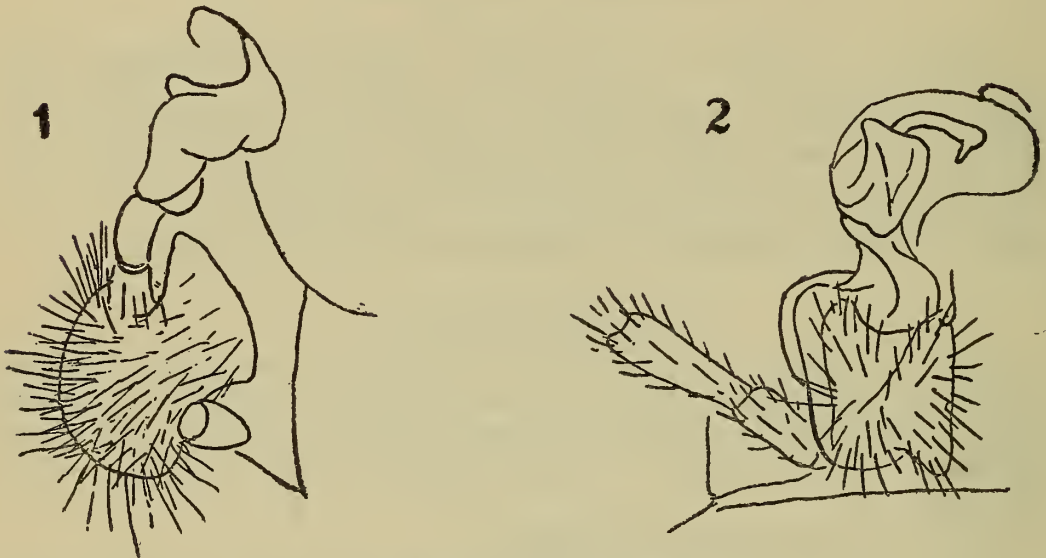
Collum moderately narrowed down each side; the lower margin nearly straight and the corners rounded, the caudal one more widely so.

Legs long and slender with the ultimate article considerably longer than the penult.

Gonopods of male are represented in figs. 1 and 2.

Length of ♂ holotype about 10.5 mm.; of ♀ allotype, about 12 mm.

Locality: Texas: near Kerrville (?). One female and three males taken in the summer of 1939 by Stanley and Dorothea Mulaik.



Explanation of Figures

Fig. 1. Left gonopod of male, ectal view.

Fig. 2. Right gonopod of male, ventral view.